1	2	3
January	48.8338	
February	49.2611	
March	51.2287	

Source: RBI.

Table 2: Monthly Merchandise Export figures (in dollar terms) for the period April '08 to October '09 and growth over the corresponding period previous year

Month	2008-09** (US$ Billion)	Increase(+)/ Decrease(-) over 2007-08*	2009-10*** (US $ Billion)	Increase(+)/ Decrease(-) over 2008-09
April	18.460	63.0	11.750	-36.3
May	18.687	50.0	11.418	-38.9
June	19.181	58.5	12.972	-32.4
July	19.030	52.1	13.623	-28.4
August	17.759	40.5	14.289	-19.5
September	15.789	26.1	13.608	-13.8
October	14.131	-3.7	13.193	-6.6
November	11.163	-13.5		
December	13.368	-8.6		
January	12.869	-13.6		
February	11.941	-21.5		
March	12.916	-25.1		

(Source: DGCI&S)

* 2008-09 data includes exports from SEZ, whereas 2007-08 data does not include exports from majority of SEZs.

** Revised Estimate.

*** Quick Estimates. The figures are provisional and subject to change.

Strengthening Disaster Management Institute, Bhopal

†*291 SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal with regard to strengthening of Disaster Management

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Institute, Bhopal and mitigation and management of earthquake disasters is pending;

(b) if so, when this proposal was received and the action taken on the same, so far;

(c) whether the possibility of increase in expenditure on that work enhances due to the long time taken in sanctioning the proposal; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) to (d) A proposal was received in this Ministry from the Government of Madhya Pradesh during July, 2004 for strengthening the Disaster Management Institute (DMI), Bhopal as a Centre of Excellence for mitigation and management of Earthquake and Industrial disasters (including Remote Sensing Cell).

The above proposal could not be finalized mainly due to wide gap between demand of the State and the provision of funding in the then guidelines of availing Central Assistance for operation of a faculty of Disaster Management in State level Training Institutes. The additional amount demanded by the State Government for the DMI, Bhopal from Central Government for developing a Centre of Excellence for above mentioned disasters was Rs. 42 lakh per annum whereas under the then prevailing Central Sector Scheme, the amount of Central Assistance was only upto Rs. 10 lakh per annum for each Training Institute. However, during the period 2007-08 to 2011-12, the above Scheme is being continued as a Non-Plan Scheme in which the amount of financial assistance has been raised upto Rs. 30 lakh per annum. Expenditure in excess of the limits mentioned above will have to be met by the Institute/State Government concerned from their own resources. This Scheme is being implemented by National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM). Under the present Scheme, there is a provision for developing a few Centres of Excellence on specific type of disasters on the basis of their expertise, capacity and infrastructure. Keeping in view the profile and activities of the DMI, Bhopal, NIDM had sought a detailed proposal from them in June, 2009 for developing a Centre of Excellence for Industrial and Chemical Disasters. The detailed proposal in this regard has been received by NIDM on 07.12.2009.

Child labour

*292. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated number of children between the age of 5 and 17 currently working under conditions that are considered illegal, hazardous or extremely exploitative;

(b) whether any survey has been conducted in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the various steps taken by Government to combat the problem of child labour?